

Name _____ raw scaled percent

Math 10 Review
Circles

■ Partial credit may be given for correct work. Therefore, it is to your advantage to write clear solutions. If I cannot understand a solution within 60 seconds, then it will receive no partial credit.

■ A. Answer the following. (2 points each). This section is 4% of exam.

[1] Write the equation in center-radius form of a circle centered at the origin having radius 5.

$$x^2 + y^2 = 25^2$$

[2] Write the equation in center-radius form of a circle centered at $C(2, -3)$ radius 4.

$$(x - 2)^2 + (y + 3)^2 = 16$$

[3] Write the equation of the line tangent to a circle of radius r at point (x_0, y_0) on the circumference.

$$x_0 x + y_0 y = r^2$$

■ B. Answer the following. (28 points each). This section is 92% of exam.

[1] Find the equation of the line tangent to the circle $x^2 + y^2 = 20$ at the point $(-4, 2)$.

Since $(-4, 2)$ is on the circle, $(-4, 2)$ is (x_0, y_0) .

Then,

$$-4x + 2y = 20$$

[2] Find the equations of the lines through $(-2, 1)$ that are tangent to the circle $x^2 + y^2 = 1$.

FIRST MAKE A SKETCH! ALWAYS!

$x_0 x + y_0 y = r^2$ is the equation of *any* line tangent to a circle at (x_0, y_0) . All you have to do is determine the constants x_0 and y_0 .

You are after two unknowns, so you will need two equations in those unknowns; i.e. simultaneous equations in x_0 and y_0 .

Here's how you get them.

You know that in $x_0 x + y_0 y = r^2$, x_0 and y_0 are on the circle. Thus, one equation is

$$\text{EQ1 } x_0^2 + y_0^2 = 1$$

You know that the point $(-2, 1)$ is on each line. So,

$$\text{EQ2 } -2x_0 + y_0 = 1 \qquad \{ \text{This is } x_0 x + y_0 y = r^2 \text{ with } x = -2, y = 1, r = 1 \}$$

So you solve

$$\begin{pmatrix} x_0^2 + y_0^2 = 1 \\ -2x_0 + y_0 = 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Finding that $\boxed{x_0 = \frac{-4}{5}}$ or $\boxed{x_0 = 0}$
 $\boxed{y_0 = \frac{-3}{5}}$ $\boxed{y_0 = 1}$

Now you know the constants in $x_0 x + y_0 y = r^2$.

Therefore, one line is $\frac{-4}{5}x - \frac{3}{5}y = 1$ and the other line is $y = 1$.

[3] Find the equations of the lines of slope 2 that are tangent to the circle $x^2 + y^2 = 1$.

FIRST MAKE A SKETCH! ALWAYS!

$x_0 x + y_0 y = r^2$ is the equation of *any* line tangent to a circle at (x_0, y_0) . All you have to do is determine the constants x_0 and y_0 .

You are after two unknowns, so you will need two equations in those unknowns; i.e. simultaneous equations in x_0 and y_0 .

Here's how you get them.

You know that in $x_0 x + y_0 y = r^2$, x_0 and y_0 are on the circle. Thus, one equation is

$$\text{EQ1 } x_0^2 + y_0^2 = 1$$

Now, you must get another equation in x_0 and y_0 .

You know that the tangent line is **perpendicular** to the circle at the point of tangency. And, you know that the slopes of perpendicular lines are related by $m_1 m_2 = -1$.

The slope of the tangent line was given. It is $m_{\text{tan}} = 2$. Thus,

$$m_{\text{tan}} m_{\text{radius}} = -1$$

$$2 m_{\text{radius}} = -1$$

Since the slope of the radius at (x_0, y_0) is $\frac{y_0}{x_0}$ {isn't the sketch helpful?}

$$2 \left(\frac{y_0}{x_0} \right) = -1$$

Whence,

$$\text{EQ2 } y_0 = \frac{-1}{2} x_0$$

So you solve

$$\left(\begin{array}{l} x_0^2 + y_0^2 = 1 \\ y_0 = \frac{-1}{2} x_0 \end{array} \right)$$

Finding that $\boxed{x_0 = -\frac{2\sqrt{5}}{5}}$ or $\boxed{x_0 = \frac{2\sqrt{5}}{5}}$
 $\boxed{y_0 = \frac{\sqrt{5}}{5}}$ $\boxed{y_0 = -\frac{\sqrt{5}}{5}}$

Now you know the constants in $x_0 x + y_0 y = r^2$.

Therefore, one line is $-\frac{2\sqrt{5}}{5}x - \frac{\sqrt{5}}{5}y = 1$ and the other line is $\frac{2\sqrt{5}}{5}x - \frac{\sqrt{5}}{5}y = 1$

[4] At how many points does the circle $x^2 + y^2 - 4x + 6y + 9 = 0$

[a] intersect the x-axis? *Answer:* 0

[b] intersect the y-axis? *Answer:* 1

Method I

Rewrite in center-radius form

$$(x - 2)^2 + (y + 3)^2 = 4$$

When you graph this the answers to the above questions will be obvious.

Method 2

If the circle crosses the x-axis, y will be zero at the point of intersection. Setting $y = 0$ in $x^2 + y^2 - 4x + 6y + 9 = 0$ yields $x^2 - 4x + 9 = 0$. You are not interested in the solutions themselves, but only how many there are. Evaluating the discriminant of this quadratic shows $D = -20$. So the circle does *not* touch the x-axis.

If the circle crosses the y-axis, x will be zero at the point of intersection. Setting $x = 0$ in $x^2 + y^2 - 4x + 6y + 9 = 0$ yields $y^2 + 6y + 9 = 0$. You are not interested in the solutions themselves, but only how many there are. Evaluating the discriminant of this quadratic shows $D = 0$. So the circle touches the y-axis exactly once.

[5] Find the center and the radius of the circle with equation $x^2 + y^2 - x + 4y + 2 = 0$.

$$\left(x - \frac{1}{2}\right)^2 + (y + 2)^2 = \frac{5}{2}$$

So, center at $\left(\frac{1}{2}, -2\right)$, $r = \sqrt{\frac{5}{2}}$.

■ C. Answer the following. (6 points). This section is 4% of exam.

[1] A point $P(x, y)$ traces a path such that its distance from a fixed point $F(0, 2)$ equals its distance to the line $y = -2$.

[a] Find the equation for the path point P traces. Answer: _____ $y = \frac{1}{8} x^2$ _____

[b] The path point P traces is what figure? Answer: _____ Parabola _____

Make a sketch. Without one, this is a difficult problem.

Note: There are questions that may appear quite different from these that I can ask to find out the degree to which you understand this material. So, when you work these, strive to understand precisely why each step is taken.

